THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SANJAY PASWAN): (a) to (c) The Department of Information Technology has implemented a project for setting up Community Information Centres (CICs) at 487 block headquarters in the seven North-East States and Sikkim for promoting application of Information Technology for accelerating socio-economic development of the region. Each CIC has been provided with one server, five client computers, printer, webcam and TV Internet connectivity has been provided through VSATs. There is no plan sanctioned for setting up of CICs in rest of the blocks of the country.

Subsidy in postal services

222. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the subsidy that Government are giving to various postal services since 1992-93, year-wise and item-wise *i.e.* subsidy on post cards registration, money order, etc;

(b) whether Government are thinking of reducing subsidy on the postal services; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SANJAY PASWAN): (a) The details of subsidies that Government are providing to various postal services since 1992-93, year-wise and item-wise have been indicated in the Statement enclosed. (*See* below)

(b) and (c) The Department is making efforts continuously to mobilize additional resources through better marketing of premium products like Speed Post, Express Parcel Post, Business Post, Media Post etc. Efforts are also made to generate higher revenue through steps like containing leakage of revenue, introduction of new technology, *viz.* Electronic Franking Machine and introduction of value added services *i.e.* Greeting Post, Data post, Passport service etc. These efforts along with suitable revision of postal rates from time to time are steps adopted to reduce subsidies on various postal services.

Statement

Details of subsidies given in Postal Services from 1992-93 to 1999-2000

Services	**1992-93**	**93-94**	**94-95**	**95-96**	**96-97**	**97-98**	**98-99**	**99-2000**
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Postcard	75.16	94.45	74.22	100.72	136.70	106.61	149.86	163.34
Printed Postcard	8.32	12.05	28.97	23.17	33.80	26.45	42.03	49.63
Comp. Postcard	—	—	—	—	0.47	1.12	3.36	
Letter Card	60.67	69.80	76.72	98.67	128.23	121.11	165.91	171.20
Letter	—	—	47.34	98.83	147.51	69.99	52.45	31.20
Regd. Newspapers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Single	26.14	34.67	33.30	32.35	40.61	36.26	82.62	73.84
Bundle	5.89	4.31	15.48	18.94	23.34	26.00	4.65	28.51
Book Post	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Book P & S. Pkts.	0.89	9.68	13.73	15.46	28.81	3.00	24.35	23.97
Printed Books	8.42	5.49	15.51	19.28	25.18	21.85	31.18	17.41
Other periodicals	4.54	5.82	12.46	11.82	27.30	12.72	18.79	9.95
Parcel	15.32	10.19	—	—	41.42	10.09	79.13	29.22
Registration	82.46	122.18	154.90	203.01	226.21	369.40	381.78	337.16
Value Payable Post	2.76	4.52	5.34	7.96	11.69	14.55	15.75	16.11
Money order	3.42	—	—	36.71	61.47	121.03	245.61	305.61
Telegraph M.O.	0.15	—	0.01	1.27	2.80	3.44	7.75	9.44
I.P.O.	19.28	13.54	11.20	19.64	25.42	29.30	43.87	66.02
Acknowledgement	1.97	1.39	5.03	7.54	9.05	11.17	10.88	11.25